COLLEGE STUDENT PEDDLER

Many Earn Way Through School by Selling Wares of Farmer—Profit in Several Directions.

College students were employed last summer in peddling vegetables for a farmer at Hough's Neck, Mass. Young men from Harvard and Dartmouth, although the only only Americans employed, the farmhands and the pickers being Italians, found this form of employment one which involved no sacrifice of their self-respect as students and which yielded them large returns in health and money.

The college boys were not required to cry their wares. Each fellow had a regular route which he covered daily, taking orders and delivering the same as the grocery clerk. In addition each was expected to load his wagon and to make his own collections. As it is almost wholly cash trade, the collecting takes almost no extra time. As soon as a man has sold his load he returns and has the rest of the day to himself.

Mr. Cavanagh's farm being situated at a summer resort the college peddlers had the opportunity to enjoy many of its pleasures, and so combined fun with work. When they returned to college their bronze tinted faces, clear eyes and increased weight told how well their work had agreed with them, and their work had been satisfactory also to their employer.

Mr. Cavanagh, who has long been a progressive farmer, first conceived the notion of putting college men on his vegetable teams a few months ago. His [illegible] ence with college students in their summer activities made him feel sure that the opportunity to do light farm work would be gladly accepted by young men who were putting themselves through college; so when the vegetable season opened he went to the employment bureau at Harvard and secured from there and from Dartmouth as many men as he could employ.

When the farmers in the neighborhood first heard of Mr. Cavanagh's idea as to vegetable peddlers they snorted in disdain. "College men selling vegetables; what do they know about it? Probably can't tell a squash from a haymow." They felt their doubts confirmed when they heard of their arrival one day late in June. The men who took them down to the farm heard one ask the other, pointing to some lettuce, if those were pea bushes. His companion did not know what "those" were but suggested tomatoes. "Pea bushes," spluttered the farmhand in telling the story, "and tomatoes. Oh, just wait until they get an order for lima beans, they will probably fetch a squash." But it did not take them long to learn the different kinds of vegetables, not only to distinguish between them, but to learn all about their cultivation, so that they could talk most intelligently with their customers.

It is an interesting fact in illustrating the change in the nationality of farm employes in recent years that these college men were the only Americans employed on the farm. All the field hands were Italians and the pickers were women of the same race.

The college men were provided with all the comforts of home in a neat cottage on the farm, where their meals were cooked by a man cook. When night comes after a day's work on the farm insomnia is an unknown element in the lives of these young men.

New Zealand Kea.

A curious victim of hasty conclusion seems to be the kea, whose extermination is likely to result from its reputation throughout New Zealand as a sheep killer. It is generally believed that this parrot kills many animals by a cruel way of pecking into their sides, but a recent careful investigation fails to give the slightest evidence of the habit. The investigators decide that the bird's ill repute has arisen from its inordinate curiosity, somebody having jumped at the inference of slaughter when it was inspecting a dead carcass.

Double Dose for That.

Papa (sternly)—Come here, sir! Your mother and I agree that you deserve a sound whipping.

Small Boy (bitterly)—Oh, yes, that's about the only thing that you and mamma ever do agree about.—Stray Stories.

THE STYLES IN SNOWSHOES

Various Models That the Traveler Prefers in Different Parts of the Country.

In the intense cold of the northwest where the snow is deep and frozen to a dry powder, the dog drivers use a shoe that is 2½ feet long and fairly narrow. The meshes are coarse in the spring, but midwinter and dry, hard snow necessitates an extremely fine mesh. The toe hole is placed about two thirds the length forward and the toe of the shoe is broad and upturned. In the best made shoes the filling is cleverly put in and presents a concave surface to the snow and does not sink in deeply, but carries up and forward so that the long body and heel always remain down, even at a fast pace.

In Eastern Canada, where the country is less open, the snowshoe is an almost exact opposite in shape. The oval is shorter and broadened until it appears very clumsy, nevertheless it has been generally accepted for all-round use. In this model the toe hole is placed further forward for ease in hill climbing, says L. D. Sherman, in Outing.

The "club" shoes in the market to-day follow this design, except that they have upturned toes, whereas the trappers and lumbermen claim that it is easier to climb hills on the flat-toe model, especially when carrying a pack or dragging a toboggan. A specially designed shoe called a "hill climber" has no filling forward of the toe hole nor back of the rear cross piece, beside being very coarsely meshed. To borrow from an expressive friend who owns a pair: "If you always climbed it would be a 'cinch,' but they're the divil and all coming down." Where the forests are very dense the Indian uses a fairly broad shoe about three feet in length, enabling him to slip smoothly about through the trees with small danger of tangling the tails in the thick underbrush, which would be sure to happen incessantly if they were modeled after those used on the open plains.

There is another interesting model, formerly used in the Adirondacks, and now mostly confined to the Rocky mountains, called the "bear-paw" shoe. It is a perfect oval in shape, having no heel or tail. It measures about 18 by 14 inches and is coarsely strung, the meshes being two to four inches across. This course mesh is very necessary where the snow is moist, as otherwise the shoe would load up at every step and make traveling impossible. Most of the eastern shoes are closely meshed, as the snow, being light and fine in a wooded country, sifts easily through.

BIG "SCANDAL" VANISHES.

Jed Spalding's Opponent Was "Living with Another Man's Sister," According to Minister.

The late Jed Spalding, of Michigan, who weighed 530 pounds and stood six feet five in his socks, was one of the best jokers in the state. He had a brother-in-law in politics, whom he did not like very well, and once very vigorously opposed his candidacy for mayor of Port Huron, Mich. One day, while the ministers of the city held a meeting to decide which candidate to support, Jed happened to meet one of the pastors on the way to the meeting. This preacher was an aged Scotchman and somewhat hard of hearing. He told Spalding that he would do all he could to prevent the brother-in-law's indorsement, and asked for a pointer or two for a speech. Spalding, ever ready for a joke, saw his chance, and, pulling his pastor aside, shouted in his ear: "My brother-in-law is living with another man's sister."

"You don't tell me!" the pastor said, and he hurried off to the meeting to spread the news among the ministers. He got the platform and immediately said:

"The Democratic candidate is a most wicked wretch. He is living with another man's sister. I have the word of his brother-in-law, Jed Spalding, for it."

Immediately the meeting was in an uproar. The mention of Jesse Spalding was enough. The laughter became tumultuous, but the pastor didn't notice the mistake he had made until told that Jed Spalding himself was the "other man."

FIRST INDIAN IN LONDON.

Unusual Experience of a New Yorker and an English Boy in Capital—Tells of Acquaintance.

"The first American Indian I ever saw," said a New Yorker, "was in London, at Buffalo Bill's wild west show.

"I had gone out to the show grounds early so as to look around a little in advance, and while I was doing this I saw this Indian step out of his tepee; and he fixed my eye in a minute, and I just stood there and looked at him.

"He was the real red man of the forest all right, the kind you read about in Indian stories, and he looked it all over, tall and straight and lithe and all that, and he just stood there in front of his tent like a bronze figure, silent and immovable, never saying a word.

"Next there stepped out of the tent a little Indian, five or six years old, maybe. He was the big Indian's son, probably, and a straight little chap he was. He stepped up alongside of his father, and stood there just as still and silent; and that certainly made a remarkable pair of Indians, and I stood and looked at them with great interest.

"And while I was standing there looking at them a little London cockney lad, maybe 12 or 14 years old, came along, and stopped and looked at them, too, with interest, but with a little different sort of interest from mine. He had in his hand a biscuit, or a bun, or something, and after he'd been standing there a minute or two he began picking little bunches of it out of this bun and rolling them in dough pills between his fingers and flicking these pills at the small Indian.

"Neither the big Indian nor the little one stirred or said a word while this was going on. They just stood there just the same until finally the little cockney lad landed one of those pills square in the little papoose's eye. And the big Indian spoke.

"He didn't move, he didn't stir, he didn't shift a hair; but he didn't need to take any action, what he said was enough. And he didn't say 'Ugh! Ugh!' or talk any sort of Indians at all.

"But standing there perfectly still, never moving a muscle, and speaking quietly and coldly, he proceeded to tell the lad, in detail, and not in Indian, but in straight New York Gashouse, precisely what he won't [illegible] another pill at the little Indian.

"If a statue had spoken to me in that sort of language I couldn't have been more surprised than I was to hear the Indian talking it; and what with the surprise of it, and, still more, I guess, the very particular nature of the warning in it for him, the Indian speech hit the little cockney lad hard. He certainly did not throw any more pellets at the papoose, and pretty soon he passed on; and I went on myself not long after that, leaving the Indian still standing there immovable."

Novel Weather Signal.

In some parts of the United States, where the weather conditions are of vital importance to the fruit-grower, the weather bureau has endeavored to reach everybody interested by means of whistle signals. A code has been devised, and where used locally it is published in the newspapers, so that at a given hour anyone may learn of the latest weather forecast without taking the trouble to go out of his way. A preliminary blast of from 15 to 20 seconds' duration is first sounded at a predetermined hour to attract attention. Weather conditions are indicated by combinations of long blasts, and temperature conditions by short blasts. The long signals are from four to six seconds' duration and the shorter ones from one to three.

Telephone Patents.

A patent every day for the year 1905 is the telephone record. During the last year there were issued about 365 patents for inventions relating to telephony, or an average of one daily. This represents 30 per cent. increase over the year 1904, and nearly 100 per cent. increase over 1903.

Which Half?

Bjones—Psmith said I was a liar and a horsethief.

Kbrown—Oh, don't mind that. Everybody knows that Psmith never gets anything more than half right.—Cleveland Leader.

STRAW HAT SALE IN WINTER

For Wear in Florida, Where the Summer Season Has Opened—Wave Proceeds North.

"We always carry a good stock of straw hats in winter," said a New York hatter, "and the severer the winter the more straw hats we sell. The simple reason for this is that in such a season more people go south, and it is to people going well south that we sell straw hats here in winter.

"They are wearing straw hats in Florida now, south of St. Augustine. You would find some straw hats worn in that city, but at Ormond, Palm Beach and Miami and elsewhere throughout the Florida peninsula south of St. Augustine straw hats are now commonly worn and are required for comfort.

"The straw hat stocks that we carry in winter here and at our agencies in Florida are not of the hats left over from the stocks of the preceding season here, but advance supplies of new fresh goods, from stocks made up for the succeeding season. The straw hat season in this country really opens in Florida in winter, and the hats we are now selling for wear there are of the styles of 1906, such as will become familiar here when, in due time, the straw season shall have opened in New York."

"We begin making straw hats for the next year's trade on August 15," said a straw hat manufacturer, "and this work goes on actively all through the fall and winter. When people here in New York are going around in heavy overcoats and furs we are selling straw hats for future delivery, and the distribution of straw hats to more distant southern points begins in winter, so that the jobbers and retailers at these points may have their stocks ready for the opening of the season.

"The straw hat season opens in Florida, not only for the tourists, but for dwellers in the state, about February 1. In New Orleans and Mobile and along the gulf, they begin to wear straw hats about April 1, and so with the advancing season straw hats begin to blossom further and further north, until we get the opening of the straw hat season in New York about the last of May."

IRELAND'S FUEL INDUSTRY.

Land of Erin Certainly Is Entering Upon Another Era, According to All Indications.

It now looks as if Ireland had entered upon a practical development, in a new fashion, of the vast reserve of fuel stored in her bogs, says the Boston Transcript. The coal deposits, though worked to a small extent, do not at present encourage a considerable investment of capital. Prof. Hull, when head of the geological survey department, fixed the native coal resources at a substantial total, and the day may come when, through the improvident system of English mining, they will constitute a very valuable property. Meanwhile the peat is at the surface and invites enterprise. The wonder is that this great accumulation of potential wealth has remained so long almost ignored. It is true that at least 3,000,000 of the population have used peat from time immemorial for heating, but they were merely touching the fringe, and the current methods of preparing it for burning were utterly primitive and incidentally wasteful. No one seemed to think until very recently that a material so abundant might be capable of utilization in some other way and for other purposes than for domestic fire. Men of science, active enough in various directions, ignored mere bogs as scarcely worthy of their study. They didn't even appear to be aware that Germany was experimenting with this "brown coal" with a view of bringing it into the domain of commerce, and that Sweden, Denmark and Holland had machines in use to compress the clammy stuff into hard and dry cakes which would meet the needs of manufacturing industry.

To the Point.

"The day of the boss is over," said the talkative man.

"Married or single?" asked the man who hadn't spoken before.

Thoughtless listeners deemed the question irrelevant.—Philadelphia Ledger.